



Assessment Notes...

From the Standards and Assessment Division

May 7, 2003

California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE)

Test Results Available Sooner Electronically

The spring 2003 CAHSEE administration is the first tenth-grade census administration. It is also the first administration in which student results will be available in an electronic format, via the ETS CAHSEE Web site (www.ets.org/cahsee) at the same time the hard copy reports arrive in districts. Student results from the March administration will be available on May 9, 2003; student results from the May administration will be available July 18, 2003. The deadline for test book orders for July is May 21.

AB 1609 Study Report Meets May 1 Deadline

Education Code Section 60857 (Statutes of 2001, Chapter 716, AB 1609) requires an independent study to examine whether the test development process and the implementation of standards-based instruction meet required standards for a high-stakes test like the CAHSEE. Human Resources Research Organization (HumRRO), the contractor that conducted this study, provided a report to the State Board of Education (SBE) on the May 1, 2003 deadline. The report is posted on the CDE CAHSEE Web site www.cde.ca.gov/statetests/cahsee. HumRRO will present the report to the SBE on May 7. The SBE will review this report and announce its decision on whether to delay the consequences of the CAHSEE at the June or July SBE meeting.

Revised Timeline for Distribution of Student Study Guides

The timeline for the release of CAHSEE Study Guides has been changed because of continuing revisions. Preprint versions of the guides now are expected to be available in June, at which time they will be posted to the CDE CAHSEE Web site. Hard copies of the guides now are expected to arrive in districts in July. Districts will receive one copy of each study guide for each tenth grader who does not pass the March or May 2003 administration of the CAHSEE. Once final versions of the guides are available, they will replace the preprint versions on the Web site.

Change for Coding of Student Grade Level

In order to alleviate problems some schools had last summer with grade changeover for students from June to September, due to software limitations, schools now may code any grade for students on the CAHSEE Pre-ID files for all administrations. Beginning with the July administration, however, the grade used for reporting purposes for all students will be taken from the School

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and Grade Identification Sheets that are placed on top of the answer documents for each grade when they are returned for scoring. It is very important, therefore, that districts correctly assemble the answer documents for each grade under the correctly marked ID sheet.

All tenth graders must take the test in the March or May cycles with one exception for year round schools. CDE is working with the Los Angeles Unified School District to determine if one of their enrollment tracks will need to administer the test to tenth graders in November in order to have a make-up opportunity in either March or May to try to meet the 95% requirement for AYP (95% of all students and 95% of all subgroups must be tested).

Students who are in grade ten this year and who are retained as tenth graders next year must not take the CAHSEE until March or May 2004. Because the Education Code designates July 1 as the beginning of each school year, tenth graders who take the CAHSEE in March or May and are promoted are considered eleventh graders beginning July 1. CAHSEE answer documents for these students, therefore, must be placed under an ID sheet marked as grade 11. Even if a school's automated system lists these students as tenth graders for the Pre-ID, the school must be careful to correctly mark their grade as 11 when completing the School and Grade Identification Sheet.

The pre-ID format for the July administration of the CAHSEE is identical to the STAR format, except for two CAHSEE-specific questions. Please review the documentation carefully and upload files as early as possible to allow time for the editing processes. ETS will allow uploads, beginning June 9, 2003.

Additionally, ETS has indicated that a number of fields do not need to be completed for adult education, beginning July 2003. These include:

- language fluency
- school mobility
- district mobility
- ESEA Title 1 participation
- Migrant Education
- American Indian Education
- Gifted and Talented
- NSLP (National school lunch program)
- English learner year enrolled
- RFEP year redesignated
- ASAM school designation
- student counted in CBEDS-district
- student counted in CBEDS-school

For More Information...

For more information about the CAHSEE or other state assessments, contact the Standards and Assessment Division of the California Department of Education at (916) 445-9449 (phone), at (916) 319-0969 (fax), at <CAHSEE@cde.ca.gov> (e-mail), or at <<http://www.cde.ca.gov/statetests>> (Internet). Your questions will be directed to the appropriate person.